

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05

NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-01 OMB-01 CEA-01 L-02

H-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-02

OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 PA-01 PRS-01 IGA-01 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /099 W

----- 035281

O R 052149Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5821

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAEGN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 809

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS EFIN CI

SUBJ CHILE DEBT RESCHEDULING

REF A) STATE 45567 B) OTTAWA 791

1. ON MARCH 5 BERGBUSCH, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EXTAFF'S
AID AND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION, GAVE ECON COUNSELOR
STATUS REPORT ON GOC CONSIDERATION OF PARIS CLUB
MEETING. BERGBUSCH SAID HE HAD COORDINATED WITH
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FINANCE DEPARTMENT AND WAS SPEAKING IN RESPONSE TO

OUR REPRESENTATIONS TO BOTH DEPARTMENTS ON MARCH 4
(REF B).

2. BERGBUSCH SAID INTERNAL GOC DELIBERATIONS HAD BEEN INCONCLUSIVE. EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER MACEACHEN LEFT LAST WEEKEND FOR LONDON TO ATTEND COMMONWEALTH MEETING ON FOOD AND AGRICULTURE. SHORTLY BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE, UK HAD ALERTED HIM TO ITS DECISION ON NON-ATTENDANCE AT MARCH 24-25 MEETING AND HAD INDICATED THAT CALLAGHAN AND OTHER BRITISH OFFICIALS WOULD WISH TO DISCUSS ISSUE WITH HIM IN LONDON. BERGBUSCH SAID THAT IN VIEW OF THIS HE WOULD NOT EXPECT GOC POSITION TO BE FINALIZED UNTIL NEXT WEEK AFTER MACEACHEN'S RETURN. BERGBUSCH WAS CERTAIN MATTER WOULD HAVE TO BE PUT BEFORE CABINET.

3. BERGBUSCH SAID IN MEANTIME GOC INTENDS TO TAKE SOUNDINGS IN OTHER CREDITOR CAPITALS. SEVERAL COUNTRIES HAVE APPROACHED GOC IN OTTAWA: ITALIANS WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF PARIS CLUB INFORMED GOC THEY SUPPORT UK POSITION; FRG RAISED QUESTIONS IN NEUTRAL FASHION (AS GOC WILL DO IN ITS SOUNDINGS); JAPANESE WERE NOT ABSOLUTELY CLEAR BUT LEFT GOC WITH IMPRESSION THEY INCLINED TO SUPPORT U.S. POSITION.

4. BERGBUSCH ASKED WHETHER CHILEAN GOVERNMENT HAD LIFTED "STATE OF SIEGE". HE COMMENTED THAT THIS HAD COME UP AT LAST PARIS CLUB MEETING AND THERE HAD BEEN SOME SUGGESTION THAT CHILE WOULD ACT IN ORDER TO EASE CONCERN ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTION. SINCE POLITICAL FACTORS WILL OBVIOUSLY BE IMPORTANT IN GOC DECISION-MAKING (AS WELL AS THAT OF OTHERS) LIFTING OF "STATE OF SIEGE" COULD BE RELEVANT. ECON COUNSELOR SAID HE COULD NOT ANSWER QUESTION BUT WOULD SEEK INFO FROM DEPARTMENT.

5. FINALLY BERGBUSCH OFFERED "STRICTLY PERSONAL OPINION" THAT IF SEVERAL PARIS CLUB MEMBERS WERE NOT GOING TO ATTEND MARCH 24-25 MEETING (AT LEAST NETHERLANDS AND SWEDEN WOULD FOLLOW UK LEAD, HE CONFIDENTIAL

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THOUGHT), THERE MIGHT BE SOMETHING TO BE SAID FOR POSTPONING MEETING UNTIL MORE PROPITIOUS TIME.

6. ACTION REQUESTED. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE ANY LIGHT DEPARTMENT CAN SHED ON "STATE OF SIEGE" QUESTION IN PARA 4 ABOVE.
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